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Letter dated 16 January 2004 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1521 (2003) of 22 December 2003 concerning Liberia. In section B, paragraph 22, of the resolution, the Council requested me to appoint, in consultation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003), a Panel of Experts consisting of up to five members, for a period of five months, to conduct a follow-up assessment mission to Liberia and neighbouring States, in order to investigate and compile a report on the implementation, and any violations of the measures referred to in section B, paragraphs 2, 4, 6 and 10, of the aforementioned resolution, including any violations involving rebel movements and neighbouring countries, and including any information relevant to the Committee's designation of the individuals described in section B, paragraph 4, and including the various sources of financing, such as from natural resources, for the illicit trade of arms, and to assess the progress made towards the goals described in section B, paragraphs 5, 7 and 11, of the same resolution.

Accordingly, I wish to inform you that, taking into account the requirements stated in resolution 1521 (2003), including that I draw, as much as possible and as appropriate, on the expertise of the members of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1478 (2003), I have appointed the following five experts:

1. Mr. Arthur Gregory Blundell (Canada)
2. Mr. Atabou Bodian (Senegal)
3. Mr. Damien Callamand (France)
4. Mr. Caspar Fithen (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
5. Mr. Tommy Stephen Garnett (Sierra Leone)

I have also selected Mr. Bodian to chair the Panel of Experts.

I should be grateful if you would bring this information to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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